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spread. All the species, originating in the head-waters, propagated down-stream, and thus arose the overlapping of faunas, and probably the disappearance of many faunæ as peculiar as is that of the Alabama, which contains, besides some distinctive Unios and a singular Goniobasis, two Strepomatid genera, Schizostoma and Tulotoma, with thirty species, none of which were found elsewhere.

ZITTEL'S HANDBUCH DER PALÆONTOLOGIE.<sup>1</sup>—This standard and fresh work on general palæontology is slowly appearing in numbers, the present one beginning the treatment of the Mollusca. One important feature of the present number are the two hundred excellent wood-cuts of fossil Lamellibranchs. The orders, families and leading genera are briefly described and the typical species mentioned. The systematic portion is succeeded by a brief section on the distribution of Lamellibranchs in geological time. It appears that of all fossil mollusks the Lamellibranchs constituted a fourth part in the palæozoic period, in the Jura and chalk periods one-half, and in the Tertiary period a third part.

MARTIN AND MOALE'S HOW TO DISSECT A CHELONIAN.<sup>2</sup>—This little book is the first of a series designed to form a handbook of vertebrate dissections. The directions given are meant for use in connection with lectures, and the reading of a good text-book and some knowledge of human osteology on the part of the dissector is assumed by the author. The species dissected is the red-bellied, slider terrapin (*Pseudemys rugosa*). After stating the zoölogical position of this terrapin in general terms, taken, with slight modifications, from Huxley, the student is then led to examine briefly the general external appearance of the animal, and then clear, succinct, and, we should think, sufficiently full directions how to dissect the creature are given. The method pursued is not comparative, but special; we should look for the introduction of the comparative method in the succeeding parts. No illustrations of the soft parts are given. A frontispiece is devoted to good figures, showing the different parts of the skull. The book is useful, and one which is needed.

PACKARD'S ZOOLOGY, THIRD EDITION.<sup>3</sup>—The changes made in this edition consist mainly in the correction of errors, the results of suggestions and criticisms from naturalists and teachers. Among the changes and additions are references to Ryder's *Symphyla*,

<sup>1</sup>*Handbuch der Palæontologie*. Herausgegeben von KARL A. ZITTEL. I. Band. 2. Abtheilungen. I. Lieferung, mit 200 original-holz-Schnitten. München und Leipzig, 1881. 8vo. Preis Marks 7.

<sup>2</sup>*Handbook of Vertebrate Dissection*. Part I. How to Dissect a Chelonian. By H. NEWELL MARTIN, Professor in the Johns Hopkins University, and WILLIAM A. MOALE, M.D. New York, Macmillan & Co., 1881. 12mo, pp. 94. 75 cts.

<sup>3</sup>*American Science Series*. Zoölogy for High Schools and Colleges. By A. S. PACKARD, Jr. Third edition, revised. New York, Henry Holt & Co., 1881. 12mo, pp. 719. \$3.

which is regarded as a sub-order of Thysanura, while the recent views of Semper and Moseley as to the formation of coral reefs are briefly referred to. The index has been altered to correspond with changes in the text.

VERRILL'S CEPHALOPODS OF THE NORTHEASTERN COAST OF AMERICA<sup>1</sup>.—This is a memoir of 267 pages, with 44 plates, upon the species of Cephalopods which have been collected upon the Atlantic coast of the United States, mostly within a few years, by the United States Fish Commission and the United States Coast Survey. It is a monographic account of these animals, accompanied by most excellent plates from drawings by Mr. Emerton. While the bulk of the work is devoted to careful descriptions of the species, the gross anatomy of a number is given and illustrated, and the habits of some of the common species described. Besides the descriptions of gigantic squids and the excellent drawings illustrating them, the point of most interest brought out by the author is the description of the cone discovered by Mr. W. H. Dall in *Moroteuthis robusta* Verrill. It is figured on Pl. XXIII, and thus described by Professor Verrill: "This genus will have, as known characters: A long, narrow, thin pen, terminating posteriorly in a conical, hollow, many-ribbed, oblique cone, which is inserted into the oblique, anterior end of a long, round, tapering, acute, *solid*, cartilaginous terminal cone, composed of concentric layers and corresponding to the solid cone of *Belemnites* in position and relation to the true pen."

This is a most interesting discovery, for we are now able to understand the relation of the cones described as *Belemnites*, which have usually been homologized with the pen or bone of cuttle-fishes. The *Moroteuthis* is a gigantic calamary, but the ordinary *Belemnites* may have been closely related in form to our hooked calamary, and a cone three inches long may have been worn by individuals not over two feet long, and not differing essentially in form from our common *Ommastrephes*. The cone is present or absent apparently in quite closely allied forms. We wish the author had made a little more of a subject of so much palæontological interest.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.—Allgemeine Zoologie oder Grundgesetze des thierischen Baus und Lebens. Von H. Alexander Pagenstecher. Vierter Theil. mit 414 Holzschnitten. 8vo, pp. 999, cuts. Berlin, 1881. From the author.

Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Fische Afrikas und Beschreibung einer neuen Sargus-Art von Den Galapagos-Inseln. Von Dr. Franz Steindachner. Aus dem XLIV Bande der Denkschriften der Kais. Akad. der Wissenschaften. 4to, pp. 42, 10 plates. Wien, 1881. From the author.

Ueber *Plicatocrinus fraasi* aus dem oberen Weisser Jura von Nusplingen in Württemberg. Von Dr. K. A. Zittel, K. Bayerischen Akad. 8vo, pp. 12, 2 plates. München, 1882. From the author.

<sup>1</sup> *The Cephalopods of the Northeastern Coast of America.* Parts I, II, 1879–1881. From the Trans. Connecticut Academy of Sciences, Vol. v.